



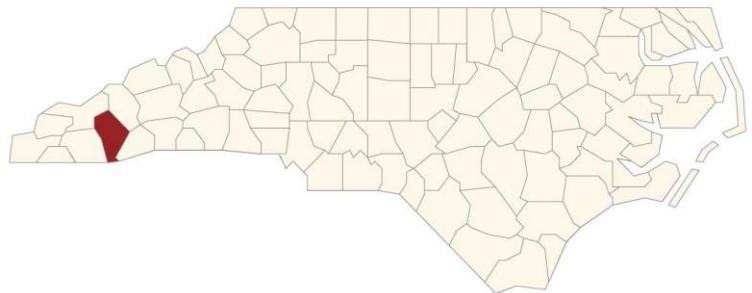
On February 17, 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Obama. ARRA provides increased support to several existing federal programs administered by states, creates new programs such as the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, and offers opportunities for states to apply for competitive grant programs.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's significant investment in North Carolina totaled almost \$19.5 billion, including assistance for those needing help the most through increases in unemployment benefits, Medicaid payments, and food stamps. In addition to those expanded services, ARRA gives hundreds of thousands of working North Carolinians a break through tax credits like the *Making Work Pay* tax credit and the *First Time Homebuyer's* tax credit.

The Recovery Act is not like earlier attempts to revive the nation's economy. It is not only a one-time infusion of federal funds; instead it is a long-term effort to restore economic expansion in the short-term, as well as prepare the nation's economy for stable, healthy long-term growth. Under the terms of the Recovery Act, support for North Carolina's economy will include both investments made directly by the federal government and investments of federal funds that are made under the oversight of the North Carolina state government.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Report, Jackson County

Jackson County received more than \$45 million in ARRA funding in grants, loans, and bonds. The following report outlines the various funding categories that contributed to the Jackson County total.



Pell Grant Awards:
3,609



Small Business Jobs:
5

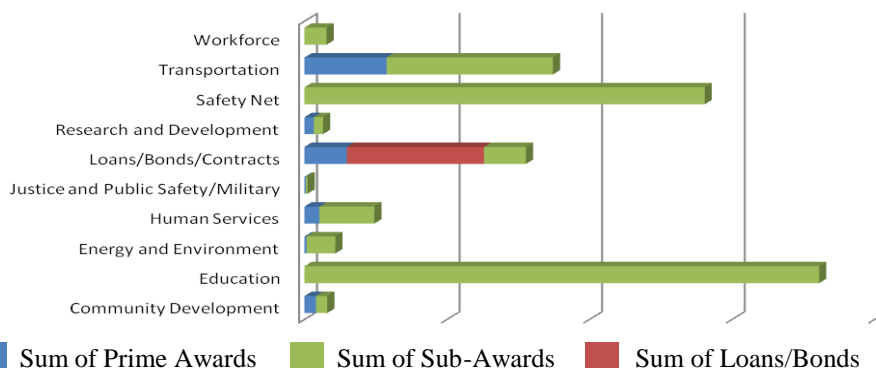


Appliances rebated:
56



Family homes financed:
30

Jackson County Totals



Jackson County,
pop 40,271 at a glance:

Recovery Act Totals:
Grants: \$41,056,005
Loans: \$ 4,810,761

Total: \$45,866,766



Education

The Recovery Act placed a special emphasis on maintaining education funding. Governor Beverly Perdue furthered this commitment by pledging additional recovery funds from the Recovery Act to education, and leading North Carolina to additional funds by winning \$400 million in the Race to the Top program.

Most of the ARRA education funds are distributed to local schools through existing funding formulas. Special Education Funds and Title I funds go to schools based on eligible student enrollment. State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF) and the EduJobs grants were designed to hold schools harmless during the recession, and were distributed to public and charter schools. The school systems have spent the majority of the funds on staff and support. Some projects, such as Race to the Top, will be spent for purchasing products and services rather than salaries for staff.

Authorization for low/no interest bonds for school construction/renovation followed the Department of Public Instruction procedures with initial allotments to the school systems. If a school system could not utilize their allotment, it was released to other school systems that could utilize additional allotments.

Jackson County schools received \$24.7 million in education funding, including \$806,413 in Special Education funds, \$487,128 in Title I funds, \$X million in SFSF funds, and \$374,289 in Race to the Top funding.

Pell Grants are an educational Assistance Program that provides grants to eligible students to receive post-secondary or vocational training. Because Pell Grants are not student loans, they allow students to receive financial assistance to further education and training without incurring additional debt. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act increased the eligibility and the maximum amount of Pell Grants in 2009 and 2010 as a way to encourage educational opportunities, and to provide a way for eligible applicants to gain new job skills.

In Jackson County, Western Carolina University and Southwestern Community College had 3,609 students funded by Pell Grants; these grants were worth more than \$24.7 million.



Family Assistance

The Federal Department of Agriculture increased funding to their Single-Family home program with the ARRA. These resources assisted families in achieving the American Dream of home ownership through direct financial assistance (grants) or credit (loan guarantees). This program pumped more than \$729 million into North Carolina, providing assistance to more than 5,400 families.

In Jackson County, 30 families received assistance through this program totaling more than \$4.4 million.

The Department of Energy created the Energy Star Appliance rebate program to help stimulate the economy by incentivizing the purchase of new, more energy efficient appliances, and helping consumers by providing long-term savings from their utility bills. The State Energy Office in the North Carolina Department of Commerce managed the program insuring North Carolina residents and retailers received the maximum benefit from this opportunity. North

Carolina retailers sold more than 25,500 new energy efficiency appliances through this program, and North Carolina residents will enjoy energy savings for years to come. The program was so successful, that the State Energy Office reprogrammed additional funding to provide discounts to everyone participating in the program, bringing the total program value from \$8 up to \$10 Million.

Jackson County retailers sold 56 appliances through the Energy Star Appliance rebate program.



Small Business Assistance

The ARRA provided tax breaks, increased depreciation of business assets, and incentives for hiring for small businesses through the tax law changes found in Part B of the Act. The Recovery Act also established direct aid programs through the federal Small Business Administration (SBA) and US Department of Agriculture (USDA). These programs provided grants, loans and loan guarantees to grant small businesses access to much-needed operational credit during 2009 and 2010.

In Jackson County 3 small businesses received SBA loan guarantees worth almost \$446,700. According to the small businesses receiving these loans, the Recovery Act saved or created 5 jobs.



Farm Assistance

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program is administered by the Farm Services Administration in the federal Department of Agriculture, which provides assistance to farmers suffering crop losses due to natural disasters. To qualify for the program a farm must have lost at least 10% of one crop during a natural disaster in a declared disaster county, or lost 50% of a crop during a disaster in a non-disaster county. North Carolina farmers received more than \$9 million in total payments under the ARRA-Funded SURE Program.

In Jackson County, \$125,883 was received in assistance to farmers because of crop loss to natural disasters.



CARS Program

The Car Allowance Rebate Program (CARS), more widely known as the 'Cash-for-Clunkers' program, provided an incentive for drivers of older, energy inefficient vehicles to upgrade to new cars. This program also provided a large economic impact in North Carolina, and North Carolina dealers received more than 18,000 trade-in vehicles through this program. North Carolina Car Dealers sold more than \$400,000,000 worth of new cars (recommended MSRP) through the CARS program. North Carolina drivers will save 172,130 miles per gallon through cars purchased through this program.

In Jackson County, car dealers sold 9 cars worth \$212,000 through the ARRA CARS program.



Environment and Natural Resources Programs

ARRA funded several programs to protect the environment, or to develop natural resources more efficiently. These programs ranged from environmental clean-up, such as leaking underground storage tank abatement and Brownfields programs, to EPA clean air grants, wildfire prevention grants, and revolving funds to build, expand, or overhaul existing water and sewer programs. These programs provided nearly \$150 million across North Carolina.

In Jackson County, the US Forest Service contacted for \$800,000 in improvements on public lands.



Green Energy Programs

One of the goals of ARRA was to provide grants to help conserve energy and assist in the development of a green economy. The State Energy Office in the North Carolina Department of Commerce received large grants for energy conservation under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. These grants include the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG), funded at just under \$20 million, and the State Energy Plan (SEP), funded at \$70 million. The State Energy Office then used these grants to make awards to businesses, non-profits, and local governments for various purposes.

In Jackson County, the Town of Sylva received an SEP grant of \$38,000 for energy efficiency upgrades and retrofits for nine downtown businesses.



Safety Net Programs

Safety net programs are the category of ARRA funding that consists of programs designed to help populations made particularly vulnerable by the economic crisis. These generally include increases in existing programs, most notably the increase in both benefit level and duration of unemployment payments. Increases in the amount and duration of unemployment payments makes up the largest chunk of safety net programs funded through the Recovery Act, totaling more than \$3.5 billion statewide over more than two years. Safety net programs such as unemployment insurance and SNAP (formerly known as Food Stamps), not only benefit the recipient, but have a proven economic impact on a community.

Jackson County residents received more than \$10.2 million in Unemployment Insurance increases during the 2 ½ year ARRA benefits increase. County residents also received \$2.0 million in SNAP benefit increases, and \$1.8 million in one-time payments of \$250 to social security recipients.

Jackson County Feature Story

The Recovery Act Puts Students to Work in Energy Efficiency Jobs

The Department of Energy granted to the North Carolina Department of Energy, within the North Carolina Department of Commerce, around \$100 million for various energy programs. Two of the primary goals of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act were to assist in the creation of a 21st century green economy, and to help people find new jobs.

To that end, the State Energy Office (SEO) established a Green Energy Internship program. The program had three goals: provide on-the-job work experience for students to enhance their education, assist businesses and organizations in the fulfillment of their missions, and encourage these interns to consider employment in green energy-related careers in North Carolina. The program placed students and recent graduates in internships and fellowships across the state. These internships were with state and local governments, schools, non-profits, and private companies.

Stephen Wilkerson, a recent graduate of Western Carolina University with a degree in Construction Management, worked as an N.C. Energy Office intern for Energy Smart Homes, a company providing energy efficiency services such as home energy audits and efficiency retrofitting -- to homes located in the Charlotte, N.C. area. As a summer intern, Wilkerson performed energy audits, insulation work, and energy conservation retrofits.



Wilkerson continued to work for the company while he was in school to translate audit data into reports for homeowners. These reports include a comprehensive list of home energy improvements developed the home audit. Audits included energy analysis, home investigation, blower door testing, and thermal imaging. The report also included a written description and estimated cost of recommended improvements to increase the home's energy efficiency,

as well as federal, state, and utility incentives to save the homeowner additional money.

"Working as an intern kept me in the loop with the company and kept me active," Wilkerson said. "As soon as I came back from school I was ready to go. I already knew exactly what was going on with the company."

Jeff DeSart, president of Energy Smart Homes, said the internship helped Wilkerson establish a relationship with the company and enabled him to join the workforce directly after graduating. "Stephen's work has been very valuable for the growth of our company," DeSart said.

Appendix, Jackson County breakout

Federal Agency	Program Title	Recipient name	Recipient role ⁱ	Prime Amount ⁱⁱ	Unique Sub Awards ⁱⁱⁱ	Loans	Additional Economic Activity (not counted toward totals) ^{iv}
	Bonds		P			\$0.00	
	Cash for Clunkers		S		\$38,500.00		
	Federal Pell Grant Program	Southwestern Community College	P				
		Western Carolina University	P				
	Very Low to Moderate Income Housing Loans - Guaranteed	Individuals	L			\$4,443,761.00	
Administration for Children and Families	ARRA - Child Care and Development Block Grant	Southwestern Child Development Commission Inc	S	\$0.00	\$1,175,288.18	\$0.00	
Administration on Aging	Aging Congregate Nutrition Services for States	Southwestern Nc Planning & Economic Development Commission	S	\$0.00	\$61,365.00	\$0.00	
	Aging Home-Delivered Nutrition Services for States	Southwestern Nc Planning & Economic Development Commission	S	\$0.00	\$30,210.00	\$0.00	
	ARRA - Communities Putting Prevention to Work: Chronic Disease Self-Management Program	Southwestern Nc Planning & Economic Development Commission	S	\$0.00	\$32,812.00	\$0.00	
Department of Agriculture	No CFDA for Contract type awards	Joel Johnson Land Surveying Inc	P	\$21,018.24		\$0.00	\$21,018.24
				\$13,957.52		\$0.00	\$0.00
	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	Multiple Individuals	S		\$2,007,251.68		
Department of Education	Federal Work-Study Program	Western Carolina University	P	\$70,586.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
Department of Justice	Recovery Act - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program / Grants To Units	Americansignal	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$14,017.77

	Of Local Government					
		Jackson, County Of	P	\$45,122.00	\$0.00	\$45,122.00
		Lawmen's Safety Supply Inc	PV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9.83
	Recovery Act - State Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program	Jackson Co. Psychological Services	SV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Department of Labor	Unemployment Insurance	Multiple Individuals	S	\$10,226,601.33		
Federal Highway Administration	Highway Planning and Construction	North Carolina Department Of Transportation	P	\$2,470,302.00	\$0.00	\$2,470,302.00
				\$407,386.00	\$0.00	\$407,386.00
		RK&K Engineering , LLP	PV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,554.50
		Stantec Consulting Services Inc.	PV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$31,366.31
		Taylor & Murphy	PV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$341,419.16
		Taylor And Murphy Construction Company, Inc.	PV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,428,306.24
Federal Transit Administration	Formula Grants for Other Than Urbanized Areas	Jackson, County Of	S	\$0.00	\$151,725.00	\$0.00
Forest Service	No CFDA for Contract type awards	Aptcon, Inc.	P	\$39,304.00	\$0.00	\$39,304.00
		Owle Construction, LLC	P	\$770,614.00	\$0.00	\$770,614.00
Idaho Operations Office	Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program (EEARP)		P		\$0.00	\$7,075.00
National Energy Technology Laboratory	State Energy Program	Western Carolina University	S	\$0.00	\$966,572.40	\$0.00
National Institute of Standards and Technology	No CFDA for Contract type awards	Opus Publishing	S	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$181,818.18
		Prometheus Computing LLC	P	\$142,938.56	\$0.00	\$142,938.56
				\$99,900.06	\$0.00	\$99,900.06
				\$199,376.80	\$0.00	\$17,896.32
				\$200,000.00	\$0.00	\$18,181.82
		Towson University	S	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$181,480.48
National Institutes of Health	Trans-NIH Recovery Act Research Support	Western Carolina University	P	\$325,729.00	\$0.00	\$325,729.00
Office of Elementary and Secondary	State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) -	Jackson County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$2,053,839.00	\$0.00

Education	Education State Grants, Recovery Act	Southwestern Community College	S	\$0.00	\$474,755.81	\$0.00	
		Summit Charter School	S	\$0.00	\$103,271.00	\$0.00	
		Western Carolina University	S	\$0.00	\$14,531,890.00	\$0.00	
	State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) - Race-to-the-Top Incentive Grants, Recovery Act	Jackson County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$374,289.00	\$0.00	
	Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies, Recovery Act	Jackson County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$487,128.00	\$0.00	
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services	Centers for Independent Living, Recovery Act.		PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$64,866.60
				\$0.00		\$0.00	\$33,048.10
		Best Buy	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$596.93
		Lowes	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$309.55
		Pathways For The Future Inc	P	\$261,915.00		\$0.00	\$261,915.00
				\$261,945.00		\$0.00	\$261,945.00
		Precision Electric	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$300.00
		Tsa Choice	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$6,033.75
	Special Education - Preschool Grants, Recovery Act	Jackson County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$29,551.00	\$0.00	
	Special Education Grants to States, Recovery Act	Jackson County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$747,814.36	\$0.00	
		Summit Charter School	S	\$0.00	\$29,048.00	\$0.00	
Rural Housing Service	Community Facilities Loans and Grants		P	\$200,000.00		\$0.00	\$200,000.00
		Fontana Regional Library	P	\$200,000.00		\$0.00	\$200,000.00
Small Business Administration	Loans	Heinzelmannchen Brewery Inc	L			\$352,000.00	
		Journey With Grace Maps, LLC	L			\$7,500.00	
		The Chalet Inn Inc.	L			\$7,500.00	
SSA	Social Security Economic Recovery Act	Multiple Individuals	P		\$1,804,000.00		

Payments				
Grand Total	\$5,730,094.18	\$35,325,911.77	\$4,810,761.00	\$8,580,454.40

ⁱ Recipient Role are as follows: P is a prime recipient; S is a Sub-recipient; PV is a vendor to a prime recipient; SV is a vendor to a sub-recipient; L is a loan recipient.

ⁱⁱ Prime Amounts are unique prime awards within a county. These are entities who have received funding directly from a federal agency, and are required to report directly to www.federalreporting.gov

ⁱⁱⁱ Unique Sub Awards are amounts that flow into a county from a source that is NOT directly from a Federal Agency. Generally these are funds awarded to the North Carolina State Government that have been directed to a local source.

^{iv} Additional Economic Activity are economic activity attributable to a previous funding category. They may be a sub award by a prime recipient within a county, or a contract funded by one of the previous three columns. This economic activity is not counted toward the county total.